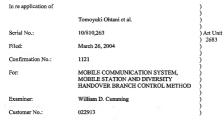
## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to fully comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the enclosed art is the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its

entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each of the listed references or relevant portion thereof is also enclosed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), the following concise explanation of the relevance of each listed reference that is not in the English language and unaccompanied by a

translation into English is provided. The concise explanation for Japanese Publication No.: 07-284143 is provided in the English abstract of that publication. The concise explanation for

Japanese Publication No.: 06-077888 is provided in the English abstract of that publication.

((Promptness Certification or Submission Fee)
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), payment in the amount of \$180.00 using the Credit Card payment option in E-Filer with RAM will be used to cover the payment of the fees to secure

consideration of the references submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement. Please credit

any over payment or charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3178 of the undersigned.

....

DATED May 22, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

WORKMAN NYDEGGER

ADRIAN J. LEE Registration No. 42,785

Attorney for Applicant Customer No. 022913

2